

Weekly Weather Crop Report

Week Ending: October 20, 1996

Released 3:00 pm: October 21, 1996

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending October 20, 1996. The main farming activities for the week were harvesting row crops and planting winter crops. Harvesting is progressing smoothly, yet the dry weather is producing problems in some areas of the state that need rain for pastures and winter grazing. Soil moisture 7 percent very short, 31 percent short, 61 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus.

Progress in Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1995	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Harvested	99	96	100	---	---	---	---	---	---
Cotton	Harvested	78	66	86	63	1	5	28	51	15
Sorghum	Harvested	97	95	100	97	---	---	---	---	---
	Silage Harvested	100	98	100	---	---	---	---	---	---
Soybeans	Turning Color	98	96	99	98	1	3	34	51	11
	Shedding Leaves	92	83	95	85					
	Harvested	66	53	72	46					
Wheat	Planted	55	36	40	34	---	---	---	---	---
Peanuts	Harvested	98	91	97	96	---	---	---	---	---
Pecans	Harvested	17	5	6	11	1	15	40	39	5
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	75	70	82	77	---	---	20	79	1
Cattle						2	8	28	54	8
Pasture						3	13	31	48	5

County Agent Comments

"Harvest continues to go well. Yields are good to excellent for all crops. Storage crates for sweet potatoes are critically short. Dry harvest conditions have hampered cool season pasture growth. More winter wheat is expected to be planted this fall as compared to previous years."

— Mike Howell, Calhoun County

"Rain as of Friday, October 18 has relieved a dry period and will allow planting of wheat and fall seeded forage crops. Harvest of cotton, soybeans, corn and grain sorghum is delayed by recent rains, but we are ahead of the normal harvest season."

— Stanley Wise, Alcorn County

"Good weather early in the week allowed farmers to harvest excellent yields of corn and soybeans. The planting of winter pastures is almost finished. Hay harvest was hampered by rain late in the week."

— Tim Needham, Tippah County

"Cattle producers are busy finishing with ryegrass planting. Early planted ryegrass is up and growing well. Cotton producers have about two days of harvesting left. Cotton yields are good."

— Otis L. Davis, Madison County

"Cool season pastures of ryegrass and small grains are facing difficulty in establishing a good stand because of dry soil conditions, insect pressure, and in some areas of the county blast fungus infections. Milk production is improving slightly in response to cooler temperatures."

— Lamar Adams, Walthall County

****Last week, we mistakenly reported Amite County agent's comment as Lamar County. We apologize for the error.****

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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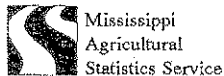
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician

Weather Summary From October 14, 1996 to October 20, 1996 For Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Ave Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Ave	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Ave	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	81	41	62	64	-2	0.17	-0.61	2	0.24	77	55	66	0.18
Cleveland	82	41	62			0.37		1	3.23				
Tunica	82	40	62	62	+0	0.95	+0.08	1	3.96	73	60	67	
Extreme/Average	82	40	62	63	-1	0.50	-0.33	1	2.48	77	55	67	0.18
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	81	31	57	60	-2	1.14	+0.19	1	3.58	73	55	64	0.13
Memphis	80	41	62	63	-1	0.00	-0.83	0	3.14				
Oxford	83	33	60	60	-1	1.85	+1.12	1	3.30				
Extreme/Average	83	31	60	61	-1	1.00	+0.16	1	3.34	73	55	64	0.13
3. Northeast													
Booneville	81	39	59	61	-1	0.72	+0.02	1	2.71				
Corinth	85	36	61	62	-1	0.93	+0.16	1	2.05				
Iuka	82	31	56			1.20		1	2.44				
Pontotoc	84	37	60	62	-1	1.03	+0.30	1	2.75	76	55	66	0.18
Tupelo	84	39	60	62	-2	0.65	-0.22	2	2.10				
Verona	85	39	60			1.27		1	2.45	79	54	67	0.20
Extreme/Average	85	31	59	61	-2	0.97	+0.20	1	2.42	79	54	67	0.17
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	84	46	66	65	+1	0.34	-0.36	1	2.26	82	65	75	
Greenwood	83	38	63	64	-1	0.28	-0.51	1	1.70				
Rolling Fork	85	44	65			0.25	-0.49	1	2.44	86	62	76	0.15
Stoneville													
Yazoo City	84	39	65	65	+0	0.26	-0.71	2	1.47				
Extreme/Average	85	38	65	65	+0	0.28	-0.52	1	1.97	86	62	75	0.15
5. Central													
Carthage	84	33	59	63	-3	0.53	-0.37	1	0.54				
Jackson	85	36	63	64	-2	0.04	-0.79	1	1.21				
Winona													
Extreme/Average	85	33	61	64	-3	0.29	-0.58	1	0.88				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville													
Columbus	86	37	61			0.00		0	0.93				
State University	87	35	62	63	-2	0.20	-0.55	1	1.40	81	56	67	
Extreme/Average	87	35	61	63	-2	0.10	-0.65	1	1.17	81	56	67	
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	86	38	65			0.00		0	1.66	78	65	71	
Natchez	83	36	64	67	-3	0.00	-0.79	0	4.87				
Oakley	84	34	62			0.03	-0.77	1	2.79	81	59	67	
Vicksburg	83	39	63			0.00		0	1.08				
Extreme/Average	86	34	63	67	-3	0.01	-0.79	0	2.60	81	59	69	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	84	38	64	66	-1	0.02	-0.58	1	0.97				
McComb	84	37	64	65	-1	0.09	-0.38	1	0.71				
Extreme/Average	84	37	64	66	-1	0.06	-0.48	1	0.84				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont													
Hattiesburg	85	39	66	66	-0	0.04	-0.63	1	4.36				
Laurel													
Meridian	85	35	61	64	-2	0.10	-0.71	2	0.98				
Newton	85	33	62	64	-2	0.10	-0.71	1	1.82	75	51	64	0.11
Extreme/Average	85	33	63	64	-2	0.08	-0.68	1	2.39	75	51	64	0.11
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	84	43	66			0.97		1	2.90				
Biloxi	81	46	66			0.00		0	2.54				
Gulfport	80	43	67	69	-2	0.01	-0.48	1	1.27				
Pascagoula	80	40	64	69	-5	0.00	-0.73	0	3.37				
Poplarville	85	41	67	68	-1	0.00	-0.61	0	0.00	84	58	73	0.21
Extreme/Average	85	40	66	68	-3	0.20	-0.41	0	2.02	84	58	73	0.21
State	87	31	62	64	-2	0.36	-0.41	1	2.01	86	51	68	0.16

DFN = Departure from Normal.

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